PRESS RELEASE

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE ON SEAVIEW NURSING HOME AND REHABILITATION FACILITY

Department of Human Services Commissioner Designee, Vivian I. Ebbesen-Fludd, issued a statement today as an update on the SeaView Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Facility.

The Commissioner Designee stated that "As indicated by Acting Governor Osbert E. Potter, we remain keenly aware of the CMS decertification of SeaView Nursing Home." To that end, the Department of Human Services has and continues to be engaged in lengthy discussions with the Office of the Governor, SeaView Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Facility Administration, Department of Health Commissioner Designee Dr. Phyllis Wallace and members of the community to address, develop and implement an alternative plan to expeditiously resolve this matter. This has included communications with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Commissioner Designee Ebbesen-Fludd also stated that as the designated State Medicaid Agency we are seeking the imposition of alternative remedies to the action taken by CMS to terminate the SeaView Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Facility CMS Provider Agreement. This request will allow the continuation of payments and the submission of a detailed plan and timetable for corrective action for approval by CMS.

Our efforts at the DHS are guided by the fact that we remain aware that the notification provided by CMS to SeaView Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Facility would have dire physical and social consequences on the medically frail and elderly residents and their families, which we cannot allow to happen Ebbesen-Fludd stated.

In closing, Commissioner Designee Ebbesen-Fludd restated the views of Acting Governor Osbert E. Potter that "we will continue to work to assure that the residents at SeaView remain within the territory and a corrective action plan be implemented to ensure that they receive the highest quality care possible." The Department of Human Services and its leadership are prepared to work with CMS and to continue its engagement with our Executive, Legislative and Congressional partners to preserve the SeaView Nursing Home and Rehabilitative Facility Provider Agreement and to ultimately serve the residents of the facility and the territory as a whole.

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Vivian I. Ebbesen-Fludd BSN, MS

Commissioner Designee